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### Editor's Note

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of the *Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law* presents five articles on three areas of international law. Each article covers an important, emerging area of law, from using civil law remedies to fight corruption, to the trajectory of the international criminal justice system, to the uncovering of World War II war crimes.

The first article, *Using Civil Remedies in Corruption and Asset Recovery Cases*, by Emile van der Does de Willebois and Jean-Pierre Brun, explores the various civil law remedies available to victims of corruption through cases studies. Willebois and Brun then compare these cases to common law remedies. The authors find that both common law and civil law systems provide remarkably similar, and successful, means of fighting corruption and recovering stolen assets.

The next piece is a speech presented by Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues Stephen Rapp at the Cleveland City Club on March 20, 2012. Ambassador Rapp's speech, *The Reach and the Grasp of International Criminal Justice—How Do We Lengthen the Arm of the Law?*, details the many recent accomplishments of the various international criminal tribunals. From this historical background, Ambassador Rapp then looked to the future to see how international criminal justice will grow and the challenges it will face. Ambassador Rapp also took audience questions on issues such as the UN Security Council's role in international criminal justice, the possibility of the United States joining the ICC, and the proper role for states in supporting international justice.

The final three articles examine the Katyn Massacre in light of current litigation and recently released documents. The first article, *The Birth and Persistence of the Katyn Lie*, by Witold Wasilewski, presents the history of the Katyn Massacre, from the crime, to the cover up, to the current efforts to bring the truth to light. Wasilewski had extraordinary access to Russian government archives, allowing him to research the first-hand documentation of the crime. His investigation revealed how the former Soviet Union was able to conceal their crimes from the world for decades.

The next piece, *Current Status of the "Katyn Case" in Russia*, by Alexander Guryanov, details The Memorial Society's efforts in Russia to gain recognition and reparations for the victims of the Katyn Massacre and their families. Guryanov explores the possible domestic legal remedies available in Russia and describes how The Memorial Society uses these laws to gain access to important documentation about the massacre.

The final piece is *The Crime of Genocide Committed Against the Poles by the USSR Before and During World War II: An International Legal Study*, by Karol Karski. Karski presents an expansive history of international prosecutions of war crimes and explores how this history could be the legal underpinning for future

prosecutions of the war crimes committed in the Katyn Forest. He concludes that the Katyn Massacre was a genocide of the Poles during World War II and urges the legal community to hold the perpetrators accountable.

The articles in this issue cover a wide array of international legal issues. However, they all return to one central point: the importance of ensuring perpetrators of crimes are held responsible. As these articles show, there are myriad ways to ensure perpetrators are held accountable and provide victims with justice. I hope you enjoy this issue of the *Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law*.